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**REMARKS**

2 These remarks follow the order of the paragraphs of the office action. Relevant portions of the  
3 office action are shown indented and italicized.

4 **DETAILED ACTION**

5 *1. This office action is in response to the applicant's communication filed on November  
6 7, 2006 2. Claims 1-40 are presented for examination.  
7 3. The applicants have amended claims 1,4, 17, 20, 25, 27, and 31 in the amendment  
8 received on November 7,2006.  
9 4. Applicants' arguments filed on November 7, 2006 have been fully considered but are  
10 not deemed to be moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.*

11 **Remarks**

12 *5. The Examiner kindly requests that the applicant reviews the claims and remove the  
13 typo errors (i.e., qqqqq, 'etc.) presented in the pending claims.*

14 In response, the applicants respectfully state that the typo errors occur in claim 1 which is  
15 canceled herein.

16 **Claim Objections**

17 *6. Claims 20-22, 34, 35, and 40 objected to because of the following informalities:  
18 Independent claim 20 is being objected to because of a minor informality to the  
19 preamble. The examiner recommends that the applicants consider amending the  
20 preamble to include hardware. The preamble should recite a 'computer implemented'  
21 method. Appropriate correction is required.*

22 In response, the applicants respectfully state that claim 20 is amended to overcome the rejection  
23 by having the preamble recite a 'computer implemented' method.. This overcomes the objections  
24 to Claim 20 and Claims 21-22, 34, 35, and 40 that depend on claim 20. Thus Claims 20-22, 34,  
25 35, and 40 are allowable.

26 **Claim Rejections- 35 USC § 101**

27 *7. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:*

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1       *Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or  
2       composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent  
3       therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.*

4       *8. Claims 1, 12, and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention  
5       is directed to non-statutory subject matter. As follows:*

6       *Claims 1, 12, 17, 19, 23-27, 29-33, 37, and 39 are rejected under 35 USC. 101 because  
7       the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.*

8       *Claims 1, 17, 25, 27, and 31 collectively are directed to search queries, mapping relevant  
9       objects, connecting categories to paths, and choosing a best path for a criterion based on  
10      the relevance of the mapped objects. The claimed inventions, as a whole must accomplish  
11      a practical application. That is, it must produce a "useful, concrete, and tangible result."  
12      State Street, 149 F.3d at 1373, 47 USPQ2d at 1601-02. MPEP 2106. In each of these  
13      cases the **result** is mapping and connecting categories. The claimed limitations are an  
14      abstraction as they are not **useful, concrete, and tangible**, they are not put in any  
15      tangible form and not useful because they are not presented in a way to provide some  
16      result that is of utility that may exist in the specification however no specific use is  
17      provided for in the claimed invention. Thus the claims are non-statutory and stand  
18      rejected under 101 as not producing a "useful, concrete, and tangible result.""*

19       *Although, independent claims 1, 17, 25, 27, and 31 are performing a query search, the  
20      independent claims do not provide a useful, concrete, and tangible result about the  
21      results of the query search. What happens to the query search in these claims as a result  
22      of information being searched for? Is the query search conducted in an effort to retrieve  
23      data for display, output, etc.*

24       *Also, claims 1, 17, 25, 27, and 31 should be amended to state that the search query is  
25      being implemented by hardware. The examiner recommends amending the preamble of  
26      the claims to state a 'computer implemented' method, apparatus, or system.*

27       *Likewise, dependent claims 12, 19, 23, 24, 26, 29, 30, 32, and 33 are non- statutory  
28      because these dependent claims comprise an article of manufacture or a program storage  
29      device, while their dependency depends on independent claims that are claiming an  
30      apparatus or method.*

31       *Thus, the remaining dependent claims not mentioned in the above rejections are also  
32      rejected for being dependent upon the above recited independent claims, these claims are  
33      also rejected for the reasons set forth above.*

34       In response, the applicants respectfully state that in order to bring the objected-to claims to  
35      allowance quickly, the rejected claims, Claims 1, 12, 17, 19, 23-27, 29-33, 37 and 39 are all  
36      canceled. It is expected that the rejected claims will be further prosecuted in a continuation.

1 It is anticipated that this amendment results in the quick allowance of Claims 20-22, 34, 35, and  
2 40.

3 Please charge any fee necessary to enter this paper to deposit account 50-0510.

4 Respectfully submitted,

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